

backs is far more suitable than the lofty back-boards of high pews. The floors of St. Michael's and Trinity would accommodate far more worshippers in open sittings in the nave and aisles than, with the pew system, they now do, aided by numberless galleries and seats intruded into the chancels. Against the appropriation of particular spots for individuals, so long as they are regular attendants on divine worship, and shew their love and reverence for it by coming in time, I say not a word; but I do condemn as utterly unjustifiable the exclusion of any individual from any seat which is vacant after service is commenced.

"And, indeed, so glaringly inconsistent is the pew system with the whole spirit of Christian-devotion, that it almost seems enough to point out its offensiveness to insure its abolition. Already it is tottering to its fall; high authority has once more spoken out against it; and though the petty pride of human nature is making a vigorous struggle, though the magnanimous people of Tuxford have issued a placard calling on the exclusionists to rise and maintain their sacred rights, by proclaiming that the sanctuary is about to be polluted by Popish superstitions, and the seats to which themselves and their ancestors liberally contributed are about to be wrested from them by Jesuitical intolerance; though some of the so-called respectable inhabitants of Ipswich have set themselves to oppose the authority of their spiritual pastors, episcopal as well as priestly, and have asserted their horror of being brought to the level of those poor to whom our Saviour came to preach the Gospel, by deserting the unpewed church, and detaching themselves to the chapel, where they can rent and do what they like with their own;—in spite of all this, the advocates of open seats are not dismayed; the right is on their side, and right is here made might. The question of the abolition of pews and galleries is now but a question of time, let us hope we shall not be behindhand in the work; let us hope that a day is not far distant when our glorious churches will be swept clean from end to end of these signs and records of an earthly and unchristian spirit; let us hope that we may awaken from our long slumber of indifference, and neglect of decent order and propriety, only to vie with each other in our zeal for reformation.

"I am persuaded that this step, under God, would do more to reclaim the lost affections of our people to the church than any thing else; this would vindicate to her that noblest title, which she now seems in some cases scarcely to desire, that of being the poor man's church; and this claim can justify to the eyes of intelligent men her retention of the privileges and advantages which she derives from her connection with the State. Surely we have no right to complain of that abandonment of their duty in church matters, which is so painfully evident in the acts and omissions of statesmen of the present day, so long as our own resources are not taxed to the uttermost; so long as we hesitate to render unreasonable claims, and to promote those reforms which must come from the church herself. All that we ask of you is to take up the subject, and in a candid and unprejudiced spirit, test the pew system by Scripture, by the history of the church, by your own experience, and I feel assured that its fate is sealed, and that we shall yet see the areas of our churches filled, as of yore, with crowds of devout worshippers, who, whatever be the salutary distinctions which mark their station in worldly matters, meet in the presence of God with perfect equality, and in the unity of the Spirit, and in the bond of love, confess our Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, members of one mystical body, recipients of the same grace, the communion of the Saints on earth."

The change of feeling in Coventry on the subject of church arrangement, since the commencement of these lectures, is perfectly magical. Parties of influence, who were heretofore sticklers for their pew rights and pew comforts, have voluntarily resigned all claim and title to their carpeted boxes, and have offered to subscribe largely to have them all swept away and replaced by open benches: this is no singular instance.

HUNGERFORD AND LAMBETH SUSPENSION-BRIDGES.—The works of this most useful undertaking are progressing very satisfactorily; at a recent meeting of the subscribers, it was stated that the bridge would most probably be completed and opened before the close of the present year. When finished, we learn it will present a most ornamental and graceful appearance, and prove a decided embellishment to the metropolis. We understand that there is every probability of the suspension-bridge between MIlbank and Lambeth-Palace being erected, which certainly will not be before it is wanted.—*British Queen.*

CENSUS. POPULATION AND HOUSES, 1841.

COVENTS.	Population.		Increase.	Houses building in 1841.	Houses, 1841.	
	1841.	1831.			Inhabited.	Uninhabited.
ENGLAND.						
			Per Cent.			
Bedford	107,907	93,483	13	311	21,333	531
Berks	160,336	143,340	12	300	31,472	1,566
Buckingham	183,969	146,539	6	198	31,071	1,157
Cambridge	164,569	143,953	14	337	33,112	2,118
Cheshire	393,306	384,391	10	873	73,390	8,843
Cornwall	341,369	306,938	11	928	63,641	4,956
Cumberland	177,912	160,061	11	199	34,444	2,369
Devon	278,393	267,170	14	444	82,910	2,482
Derby	333,731	494,478	7	883	94,837	6,117
Dorset	174,743	159,352	9	291	34,339	2,012
Durham	324,377	253,918	27	554	87,450	3,378
Essex	344,965	317,547	8	567	67,602	4,482
Gloucester	431,307	387,019	11	706	90,856	8,790
Hertford	114,434	111,311	3	173	23,461	1,428
Hestford	157,237	148,341	6	185	30,153	1,305
Huntingdon	38,699	33,193	10	65	11,897	373
Kent	348,161	279,155	24	809	95,347	5,813
Lancaster	1,067,064	1,336,834	24	3,331	299,166	23,664
Leicester	215,855	197,003	9	457	46,649	3,266
Lincoln	362,717	317,465	14	456	73,038	3,230
Middlesex	1,376,616	1,350,336	16	3,156	207,079	9,650
Monmouth	134,249	98,150	36	233	24,890	1,417
Norfolk	418,621	390,654	7	450	85,922	3,711
Northampton	199,661	179,336	11	395	40,903	1,674
Northumberland	250,368	223,913	12	442	48,704	3,051
Nottingham	449,773	325,327	38	816	50,341	3,749
Oxford	161,573	152,156	6	201	32,141	1,440
Salisbury	21,340	19,365	10	31	4,397	170
Salop	236,014	222,938	7	398	47,203	2,027
Somerset	436,692	404,300	8	891	81,652	4,798
Southampton, Hants	354,948	314,290	12	505	66,589	3,474
Stafford	510,200	410,512	24	890	97,676	5,435
Suffolk	315,129	296,317	7	577	64,081	3,317
Surry	382,613	466,334	19	218	95,373	3,944
Sussex	399,770	273,340	45	243	54,066	3,647
Warwick	402,121	336,610	19	667	81,443	6,899
Westmoreland	56,669	53,401	7	40	16,848	878
Wiltshire	266,007	240,156	11	353	50,996	3,149
Worcester	323,484	311,363	4	351	46,462	3,823
York	193,076	166,991	16	426	36,308	1,673
East Riding	34,322	33,392	3	68	7,710	369
North Riding	204,663	190,756	7	396	43,509	2,632
West Riding	1,154,924	976,350	18	8,221	226,473	18,870
Total	14,998,508	13,691,083	14	28,842	2,733,395	162,736
WALES.						
Anglesey	58,490	48,325	21	135	11,488	716
Brecon	33,295	27,763	19	77	10,634	833
Cardigan	64,380	51,780	24	133	18,192	811
Carmarthen	106,499	100,218	6	283	27,072	1,888
Carmarvon	81,068	66,448	21	134	16,969	771
Denbigh	39,391	33,029	19	67	18,485	991
Flint	66,347	60,618	10	101	13,730	446
Glamorgan	173,462	126,613	37	538	33,383	1,466
Merioneth	52,334	35,318	47	78	8,467	847
Montgomery	69,730	66,192	5	33	13,650	894
Pembroke	88,302	81,423	8	143	18,882	1,022
Radnor	35,186	24,631	43	19	4,607	334
Total	911,321	806,189	13	1,769	186,196	16,133
SCOTLAND.						
Aberdeen	192,281	177,657	8	288	32,193	1,095
Argyle	97,140	100,973	-	73	18,914	917
Ayr	104,522	145,653	13	69	30,347	1,397
Banff	50,676	48,004	5	83	11,320	678
Berwick	34,437	34,048	1	28	7,403	382
Bute	18,695	14,811	26	13	3,667	303
Caithness	36,197	34,339	5	33	6,969	314
Clackmannan	19,116	16,799	29	7	3,393	110
Dumfries	44,206	33,211	33	161	7,966	378
Dumfries	78,881	73,770	7	51	14,873	724
Edinburgh	223,623	219,343	2	121	38,003	3,861
Elgin (Moray)	34,994	34,231	2	39	8,133	378
Fife	140,310	128,839	9	133	28,665	1,502
Forfar	170,380	130,606	23	124	36,183	2,036
Galloway	35,781	36,143	-	29	4,009	739
Inverness	97,613	94,797	3	20	19,192	378
Kincardine	33,052	31,421	5	30	7,747	314
Kinross	8,763	9,072	-	16	1,866	114
Kirkcubright Stewartay	41,990	40,590	3	22	8,150	316
Lanark	427,113	316,819	34	863	80,531	3,964
Linlithgow	36,848	32,391	13	19	8,509	337
Nairn	9,923	9,354	6	18	2,306	109
Orkney and Shetland	60,007	58,239	3	38	11,426	267
Perth	10,320	10,578	-	13	3,119	154
Perth	338,111	142,994	10	10	29,178	1,798
Renfrew	134,735	133,443	1	12	24,696	1,028
Ross and Cromarty	78,058	74,878	4	11	16,166	383
South Ayr	46,062	43,663	5	38	8,674	365
Stirling	7,909	6,833	15	4	1,446	76
Sutherland	82,179	73,621	11	36	13,837	795
Sutherland	26,666	25,318	-	38	6,073	167
Wigtown	44,064	36,358	21	36	8,512	396
Barracks	4,423	-	-	-	17	-
Total	2,628,967	2,363,114	11	2,760	882,347	34,397
ISLANDS IN THE BRITISH SEAS.						
Jersey	47,346	36,582	30	-	6,671	334
Guernsey, Alderney, Sark, Herm, and Jethou	28,338	36,138	27	-	4,814	344
Man	47,983	41,000	17	-	7,974	367
Total	124,679	103,710	19	-	19,459	1,045

Those places marked * in the column of increase have decreased, viz—Argyll, 3.9 per cent., Dumfries, 1.3, Haddington, 1.0, Kinross, 3.3, Peebles, 0.3, Perth, 2.4, Sutherland, 2.4 per cent.

GREAT THAMES IMPROVEMENTS.—The Lords of the Treasury, the Commissioners of Public Works, and the Corporation of London, caused some time ago a report and estimate to be made on embanking some portion of the river Thames. A select committee of the House of Commons took up the inquiry upon an infinitely more extensive scale, and engineers of first-rate eminence were employed to examine the river within the whole of the jurisdic-

tion of the Lord Mayor, and to report upon the entire question of making the noble river advantageous in every respect to the public. By a great deal of labour, the most satisfactory evidence has been collected and laid before the Government and the corporation, and from the active proceedings adopted, it appears reasonable to calculate that the health, beauty, and convenience of the metropolis will, without much delay, be considerably augmented.